

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

By the foregoing amendment, claims 1 and 10, the specification, and the drawings have been amended, and claims 2 and 11 have been canceled. No new matter has been added, as further discussed on page 2 of this Response. Claims 6-9, 14, and 15 were previously withdrawn from consideration. Thus, claims 1, 3-5, 10, 11-13, and 16 are currently pending in the application and subject to examination.

I. Drawings

In the Office Action mailed February 12, 2007, the Examiner objected to the drawings because the specification did not mention elements 24, 29, and 60. The specification has been amended responsive to this objection. The Examiner also objected to the drawings because the specification described Figures 5(a), 5(b), and 6(b). The specification has been amended to clarify that Figure 5(a) is Figure 5, and new sheets are submitted herewith that depict the descriptions of Figures 5(b) and 6(b) in the specification. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

II. Claims

Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), claims 1-5, 10-13, and 16 are rejected as being unpatentable over Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,741,031 to Harada et al. ("Harada"). It is noted that claims 2 and 11 have been canceled and claims 1 and 10 have been amended. To the extent that the rejection

remains applicable to the claims currently pending, the Applicants hereby traverse the rejection as follows.

The Applicants submit that AAPA and Harada, whether taken alone or in combination (not admitted) do not disclose or suggest a plasma display panel with barrier ribs configured in a closed shape including at least a dual scan gap of a predetermined gap length formed between a pair of data electrodes in a column direction and at least partially overlapping the barrier ribs in a column direction, and a gap formed between said row barrier ribs and said data electrodes, and said gap is positive or negative, wherein said gap is less than 45% of the cell length, as recited in amended claim 1.

To qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102, a prior art reference must disclose each and every feature recited by a rejected claim. As noted above, neither AAPA or Harada disclose, teach, or suggest each and every feature recited by amended claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is not anticipated by or rendered obvious in view of AAPA or Harada.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 should be deemed allowable over the cited art.

To establish a prima facie obviousness, the applied art of record must teach or suggest each and every feature of a rejected claim. See MPEP §2143.03.

As noted above, neither AAPA nor Harada, alone or in any combination thereof, teach or suggest each and every feature of claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is not rendered obvious by any one or combination of AAPA and Harada, and should be deemed allowable.

For similar reasons, the Applicants submit that claims 10 and 16 are likewise allowable. As claims 1 and 10 are allowable, the Applicants submit that claims 3-5 and 12-13, which depend from allowable claims 1 and 10, are therefore also allowable for at least the above noted reason and for the additional subject matter recited therein.

a. No Motivation to Combine

With regard to each of the rejections under §103 in the Office Action, it is also respectfully submitted that the Examiner has not yet set forth a *prima facie* case of obviousness. The PTO has the burden under §103 to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness. In re Fine, 5 U.S.P.Q.2nd 1596, 1598 (Fed. Cir. 1988). Both the case law of the Federal Circuit and the PTO itself have made clear that where a modification must be made to the prior art to reject or invalidate a claim under §103, there must be a showing of proper motivation to do so. The mere fact that a prior art reference could arguably be modified to meet the claim is insufficient to establish obviousness. The PTO can satisfy this burden only by showing some objective teaching in the prior art or that knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art would lead that individual to combine the relevant teachings of the references. Id. In order to establish obviousness, there must be a suggestion or motivation in the reference to do so. See also In re Gordon, 221 U.S.P.Q. 1125, 1127 (Fed. Cir. 1984) (prior art could not be turned upside down without motivation to do so); In re Rouffet, 149 F.3d 1350 (Fed. Cir. 1998); In re Dembiczak, 175 F.3d 994 (Fed. Cir. 1999); In re Lee, 277 F.3d 1338 (Fed. Cir. 2002).

In the Office Action, the Examiner merely states that the present invention is obvious in light of the cited references. See, e.g., Office Action at page 4. This is an insufficient showing of motivation.

However, here, AAPA teaches a dual scan plasma display panel (PDP). The PDP includes non-closed ribs, and one cell has a discharge area and a non-discharge area, wherein a dual scan gap is formed between the first and second group data electrode and disposed in the non-discharging area.

In contrast, Harada teaches a display device (such as a PDP) in which color split (or color separation) is prevented and which presents less graininess in images displayed. However, Harada is irrelevant to a dual scan type PDP. The Applicants also note that the delta-arrangement pixels (see Fig. 4 of Harada) are different than the pixels of the claimed invention. In Harada, subpixels C1 to C3 (delta-arrangement pixels corresponding to first to third discharge spaces DS1, DS2, and DS3) having a second discharge gap DG2 opposed to stripe electrodes 120 of the first electrodes 12, while the discharge gaps DG1 and DG3 are opposed to the branch electrode 122 of the first electrode.

The Applicants submit that one of ordinary skill in the art would not combine the teachings of Harada with the dual scan PDP of AAPA, and that the only motivation to combine these teachings is found in the present application.

CONCLUSION

For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the claims now pending patentability distinguish the present invention from the cited references.

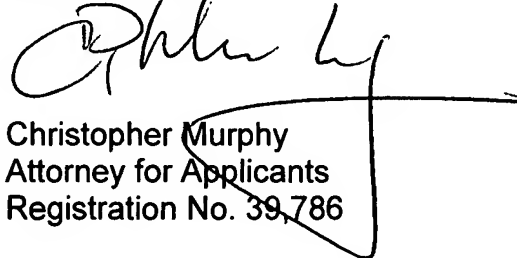
Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and an issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into condition for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned representative at the number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2300. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 with reference to Attorney Docket No. 025789-00010.

Respectfully submitted,

Arent Fox LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Murphy", is written over a printed name and title. The signature is fluid and cursive.

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